(d) whether therse weapons also include weapons which are manufactured in our ordnance factories; and

(e) if so, what is the justification for such procurements?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Consequent upon lifitng of sanctions by USA, it has now become possible to procure weapons and other ancillary items from that country. I view of the sensitive nature of the information, it will not be in the interest of national security to disclose the details.

(d) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Headmistresses/Headmasters Appointed/Promoted in NDMC Schools

*249. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO:
SHRI GANDHI AZAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Headmistresses/Headmasters appointed directly and also promoted from Primary/Nursery Teachers in NDMC schools during last five years and the number of SCs/STs appointed/ promoted during the said period, year-wise;

(b) whether there was reserved backlog before appointing/ promoting them;

(c) if so, under whose orders the posts were filled in and under which rules;

(d) the number of letters received by the NDMC from All India Association for SC/ST and Physically Handicapped Peoples Upliftment between 12th July, 2001 to date; and

(e) the details of action taken and reply given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The vacancies in the grade of Head Master/Head Mistress are

filled only by promotion; hence no person was appointed in the grade by the method of direct recruitment. The number of Primary/Nursery teachers promoted to the grade of Head Master/Head Mistress during the last five years, year-wise, is indicated below:

Year	Head Master/Head Mistress (Nursery)	Head Master/Head Mistress (Primary)
1998	09	20
1999	—	24
2000	01	26
2001	—	03
2002 (upto 18th March, 2002)	05	16

None of the teachers so promoted belonged to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes category as all the slots earmarked for reservation, excepting one reserved for Scheduled Tribes candidates, in the relevant post-based roster were already occupied by SC/ST candidates. The lone vacancy in the grade of Head Master/Head Mistress (Nursery) reserved for Scheduled Tribes candidate was carried forward due to non-availability of eligible candidates in the feeder cadre and filled up by promotion of a general category candidate after dereserving it.

(d) and (e) During the period under reference, New Delhi Municipal Council received two representations from All India Association for SC/ST and Physically Handicapped Peoples Upliftment, one dated 12th July, 2001 and the other dated 20th August, 2001, in which the Council was requested to convene a fresh meeting of the Departmental Promotion Committee to reconsider promotion of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Nursery teachers to the grade of Head Master/Head Mistress on the ground that the reservation policy followed by the Council was not in accordance with 40-Point roster. As the vacancy-based roster for reservation was replaced by post-based roster in the year 1997 in pursuance of the instructions issued by the Central Government, the representations made by the said Association lacked in substance.